LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 1846.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. A communication was received from the Senate, informing the House that the Senate had passed the following bills, with amendments, in which they request the concurrence of the House

An act authorizing payment for the repairs to the Hall of the House of Delegates;

An act for simplifying indictments for perjury. The amendments were concurred in by the

House.
The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Governor, transmitting statements showing the condition of the Bank of the Valley on the first day of January, 1845, and on the first instant; which, on motion of Mr. LACY, was laid upon the table, and ordered to

The following bills were presented: Authorizing a separate election at Beach Town, in the county of Lewis.

To change the place of holding a separate election in the county of Doddridge. Incorporating the trustees of the Jacksonville Academy, in the county of Floyd. To incorporate the Oak Grove Academy in the

county of Clarke.
Directing the Board of Public Works to sell the Pottsmouth and Roanoke Railroad, and incorpo-rating the purchasers thereof, by the name of the Sea Board and Roanoke Railroad Company. Authorizing the appointment of commission-ers by the Board of Public Works, to ascertain damages done by the old James River Company to the lands of Wm. H. Pleasants. Concerning Robert C. Campbell former Stew-

ward of the Virginia Military Institute at Lexing-Authorizing the trustees under the will of Wm. Skinker to apply for the sale of certain property To encourage the killing of Black Birds in the

county of Northampton.

Establishing an inspection of butter in the city Richmond and town of Scottsville. The following resolutions were presented and

By Mr. HOLLADAY. That the Committee for Courts of Justice enquire into the expediency of amending the act entitled "an act concerning ne sessions of the Circuit Superior Courts of Law and Chancery for the county of Spottsylva-By Mr. McDEARMON. That the Commit-

tee on the Militia Laws enquire into the expediof the militia of the county of Appomattox and the counties from which it was formed. By Mr. HIETT. That the Committee for

Courts of Justice enquire into the expediency of providing by law, that, in the appointment of High Sheriffs, in case where there are two or more Justices of the Peace whose commissions bear the same date, a selection shall be made by

By Mr. SCOTT. That the Committee for Courts of Justice inquire into the expediency of amending the law concerning double pleading. By Mr. TUNSTALL. That a Select Commine be appointed, with leave to bring in a bill increase the Capital Stock of the Roanoke Narigation Company, and for other purposes,
An engrossed bill, constituting a part of the Ri-

anna river a lawful fence, was read a third time The following Petitions, &c., were presented By Mr. NEAL, of citizens of Wood county the incorporation of a company for the contion of a railroad from the Potomac

By Mr. COWAN, of citizens of Russell coun-, for the passage of a law to authorize the county urt of Russell to sell the old jail and the public

BOAK, of citizens of the town of Martinsburg and county of Berkeley, for the es-By Mr. GOODSON, of Stafford H. Parker,

an increase in the salary of the Register of the A bill providing for the publication of the final eport of the Geological survey of the State, was

ing upon its engrossment, Mr. MaPHERSON wished to hear from the patron of the bill the reasons for the publication of the report. A Geologist residing at the University, and acting as a Professor in that Institu-

arpose of making a Geological survey of the late. There was but little reliance to be placed pon the results of this survey, since the duties of he Professor had prevented him, in a great meare, from making a personal examination of the tate, and the work was consequently entrusted his assistants. No information had been obained by this survey, which would authorize the apenditure of ten or twelve thousand dollars as Mr. LEE was the patron of the bill, and pre-

ed to show the propriety of its passage, when question should be before the House. He ei the gentleman would permit the bill to pass TAYLOR believed that the publication

uld be of no value to the State. Mr. DENISON thought they could not decide ne gentleman who opposed the publication outdoor depend entirely upon the influence of it mere ipse dixit, but should give the House benefit of their vast Geological knowledge. publication should give the reasons for the sage of the bill-showing the value of the reort. Had the Geologist discovered any gold, on or coal mines? Already the State pended 100,000 dollars for this geological vey, and the result of the whole was at loss had been sustained by individuals who re induced to engage in wild speculations sed upon the reports of the geologist.

Mr. LEE did not profess any great knowledge crology, yet he believed that much good would alt from the publication of the report. Feeling great interest in this subject, and being des of obtaining the most correct information, had made inquiry of Professor Liell, the disushed geologist, as to the qualifications of Rogers and the value of the work. His rewas that he would be happy to vouch for her in any assembly in the world. The publiion of the report of his brother in Pennsylvaid not believe that the one in question would of interior interest. It would be of great imtance to the State in the location of roads, &c. he expense already incurred by the State in logical Survey, did not exceed \$45,000. Vas it good policy or sound economy to throw way this amount, and permit the results of his ors to be confined to the bureau of Professor ogers? Was it in accordance with the dictates wisdom to plough and sow the ground, and n neglect to reap the harvest? In addition to se considerations. Virginia owed something to

cause of science and truth.

Mr. McPHERSON moved the indefinite postent of the bill. He did not question the alifications of the principal geologist, yet he abled the correctness of the report and the ad-ntages to be derived from its publication. It s much beiter to appropriate the \$12,000 rered for this purpose to the education of the

Mr. EDMUNDS enquired whether there was be any thing new in the final report.

Mr. LEE said, that the final report would conin the substance of former reports arranged in more scientific order. The report would also accompanied with colored engravings and a logical map of the State.

Mr. EDMUNDS supposed that the reports reviously published contained all the informaof any value to the country or to the cause

The ayes and noes being called for by Mr. Apr.-Messrs. John H. Custis, Layne, Har-Powell, Dickinson of B., Thompson of B., aden, Miller, Turnbull, Flood, Toler, Dickinson of C., Winfree, Hotson, Moss, Hall of F., Cling, Deckins, Street, Hotson, Moss, Hall of F. cCiung, Deskins, Street, Saunders, jr., Jones, arks, Edmunds, Stovall, Hiet, Thompson of I., Flowers, Wootton, Godwin, Duff, Goare, aylor, Gordon, Bagley, Banks, Clayton, Par-ott, Shepard, Adams, Wade, jr., Hamilton, dmondson, Kilby, Cabell, Happer, Yerby, Midton, Oliver, Edgington, Davis, McPherson, aum, Hiner, Tunstall, Lanier, Arbogast, Dey, IcDearmon, Daniel, Brawner, Long, Pritch-Gold, Martz, Cowan, Fugate, Sebrell, Free-

Hall of T., Laird, West, Goodson, Rice and wa of Albemarle, Baldwir Boak, Campbell, Lacy, Scott, Stillman, all, Cather, Callison, Lee, McRae, TurTowner, Wallace, Gaines, Ellzey, Michael, exton, Cocke, Pairfay, Denison, Still, Michael, turing, until after the completion of the Western section of the road, might be evaded. The lessess of the lands might engage in these operations.

ton, Cocke, Fairfax, Denison, Stickley, Holay, Funsten and Neal-33.

The question was on the engrossment of the | this matter to the uncertain future. This propo-

Mr. LYONS moved to amend the 1st section by adding at the close thereof the following proviso: "And provided, that the tolls of the said Company shall not be under the control of the Board of Public Works."

The general law provided that the Board of Public Works may reduce the tolls of any company whenever the dividends on their stock shall exceed six per cent. In consideration of the risk incurred, and the benefits conferred upon the State, this Company should have the privilege of receiving mo:e than six per cent in dividends, if it can be derived from the tolls prescribed in the bill; especially as the State is empowered to purchase the entire work at the expiration of thirty years. They did not propose to adopt any higher tolls than were authorized upon similar works. The amendment was adopted

The seventh section was amended so as to include in the list of commissioners the persons named in the 1st section of the bill.

nd section was amended on motion of Mr. BOCOCK, so as to read in the second provise thus: "And provided, that the restriction herein contained, in relation to the valley of the James River, shall not be construed so as to prevent the said railroad from crossing to the North side of the James River, at or above Lynchburg in such manner as not to interfere with the James River canal, or with the line of the James River and Kanawha Company's improvement, to be indicated as aforesaid.

Mr. BOCOCK moved to amend the 5th section so as to require that the company should not expend in the purchase of property at any time more than one-sixth of the amount actually paid in, and not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of two millions of dollars: provided, however, that not more than six hundred thousand dollars shall be invested in land. Mr. LYONS regarded the restriction as to

"one-sixth of the amount actually paid in" the same as had been before voted down by the House. By this proposition the funds secured to be paid in would be regarded as nothing. Mr. BOCOCK said it was true that this ques-tion had been before discussed. His object was to prevent the appropriation of all their ready money to the purchase of lands, and to require its devotion to the construction of the road. He did not wish to prevent the company from obtaining lands on the best terms. After the road was located, the lands along the line would rise in value, and they could not then be purchased on as favorable terms. To obviate this difficulty, he designed proposing an additional amendment, providing that the company should not be required to locate the entire route in two years, but onv as the work of construction progressed. Let object, and the purchase of land one-sixth. On-

ly 600,000 dollars should be invested in lands. Mr. LYONS had no objection to the last pro-position, but could not see the force of the reasonng against the investment of the capital secured o be paid. Capitalists might be willing to engage to provide a certain amount of capital at a future day, and they might be deterred from engaging in the work if a large portion of their funds were required to remain for a length of time unproductive. The Company was restricted from engaging in mining or manufacturing until the Western section of the road from Lynchburg to Guyandotte should be completed. Without the road, their lands would remain of no value. Why then adopt a restriction injurious to the interests of the Company and not beneficial to the Who would be injured by the purchase of the lands? If the Company wished to pur-chase lands, the owner would at once be placed on his guard. He would not object to the restriction to one-sixth of the amount paid in an

Mr. LACY moved to amend the amendment by inserting the words "secured to be paid in." Mr. DENISON called the attention of the House to these terms, and enquired whether they had any meaning whatever? Were they not designed in order to enable the Company to whole of their actual funds in lands? He would not object to the adoption of the expres-sion, provided the Board of Public Works was authorized to judge of the validity of the amounts secured to be paid in.

Mr. LYONS enquired whether gentlemen could expect that the affairs of this company were to be under the control of the Board of Pub lic Works? The gentleman from Shenandoah has spoken of the object of the company, and made assertions of the truth of which it is impossible that he could be able to judge. The gentleman should be careful of the difference between asserting to be true what he does not know to be true, and asserting to be true what he knows is not true. He asked for a definition of the terms. They are best defined by simply stating them. The security should be judged of by the company itself. The intention of the expres sion is what it purports to be. It is plain English, and can be easily understood. The company is required to pay into bank one million of dollars in cash, and have the remainder secured to their satisfaction. Suppose John Jacob Astor, or Mr. Marx were to execute their obligations: would they not be considered perfectly sale without ad-ditional security? What interest could the company have in accepting as subscribers those who would not comply with their obligations? What more can be required of the company than has already been exacted? Will the declaration be made by the State, that she will neither assist them with her own means, nor permit them to

avail themselves of foreign capital? Mr. DENISON explained. His meaning had been misunderstood. He believed that the Company honestly intended to complete the work it they could; but they designed purchasing lands to a large amount, and he feared that too large a portion of their actual available means might be devoted to the latter purpose. There were no means by which the State could enforce ment of the amounts secured to be paid. security might be from one member to another It seems to be the object of the patron of this bill to exclude from it any thing like a binding obliga-

Mr. BOCOCK considered this too grave a subject to be decided under the impulse of feeling. The remarks of the gentleman from the City of Richmond, with respect to the manner of deciding as to the sufficiency of the security in each case, satisfied him of the necessity of submitting the decision of those questions to other arbiters than the Company itself. The insertion of the terms "secured to be paid in," would render the amendment proposed by himself perfectly nugatory. Mr. LACY withdrew his amendment, having presented it only for the purpose of effecting a

Mr. BOCOCK modified his amendment, so as to authorize the Company to invest one-third of its capital in other property than the road and fix-

The amendment was adopted. The 4th and 10th sections were amended with-out opposition, on motion of Mr. BOCOCK, so as to exempt the Company from the necessity o com encing at the James River above Lynch-

burg, or to complete the location in two years from he commencement of the work. Mr. BOCOCK moved to amend the 18th section, which provided that the penalty for failure to comply with the conditions of the act, should be "the forfeiture of any portion of the road which may be unfinished, and of their right to construct any portion of the same, which may not have been commenced," by inserting in lieu

thereof the following provision: "Upon failure to comply with the requirements of this section, it shall be lawful for the General Assembly, in its discretion, to pass an act declaring the charter of said company forfeited, and making provisions for the sale of all the property upon fair and proper terms, and a distribution of the proceeds of said sale among the stockholders, according to their respective interests; but such sale shall not be required to take place under three years from the passage of such act, during which time said company may sell any part of their property by private contract

Mr. BOCOCK could see no valid objection to the adoption of this provision. He believed that the Company might sately rely upon the Legislature to act on this subject, with justice and liberality. If it appeared to a future Legislature, that the Company had done all in its power to comply with the requisitions of the act of incorporation, the penalty would not be enforced. The forfeiture and sale of their property was a favorite provision with him. The persons composing the Company might purchase the lands in their individual capacity, or they might obtain independent acts of incorporation for the purpose of mining and manufacturing. There was nothing to prevent them from becoming bidders at the sale of the property of the Company. He desired to remove from the Company all suspicion of their designs. The provisions of the bill restricting Ness-Messrs, Goode, (Speaker,) Southall, designs. The provisions of the Union and manufacthem of Albertacle Baldwin Manufacthem in the prosecution of the Western

Mr. LYONS did not believe that any future The bill to incorporate the Richmond and Ohio of oppression, nor had he ever expected to see the spectacle of a sovereign State sanctioning returned to the special act for the county of Loudoun, the spectacle of a sovereign State sanctioning repudiation. He was unwilling, however, to trust

sition does not leave the question of forfeiture to the courts-the only proper tribunals-but invests the Legislature with judicial functions .-Suppose the question of repudiation or the for-feiture of this charter should be presented to the Legislatuie at a future day: who can decide which alternative would be chosen by that body? Is the Legislature the proper tribunal to decide what constitutes a forfeiture? Would capitalists from abroad, or indeed our own capitalists, accept such terms? After the expenditure of se ven or eight millions, would they consent to be sold out at the will of the Legislature? He would present an amendment, which he believed would satisfy the gentlemen. It provided that if the company completed the Western section of the road and failed to complete the Eastern section, it should forfeit only the interest on the latter portion, and be permitted to retain their lands situated on the former section. But if the company failed to complete the Western section, it should be required to forleit their whole work and sell their lands. If the forfeiture would not be enforced by the Legislature, why insert a clause

in the bill which will be productive of no good and tend to defeat the measure? Mr. BOCOCK felt embarrassed by this proposition. His amendment reserved to the Legislature the power of deciding when the forfeiture at-If the Legislature will not enforce existing forteitures, is it probable that they would create a forfeiture where it did not exist without the strongest reasons for it? At present there was no anthority given to the Courts to enforce the forfeiture. An unjust forfeiture would not be enforced by the Courts. He called for the ayes and noes upon his amendment

It was rejected-ayes 50, noes 50-the Speak-

voting in the negative.

Mr. DENISON moved to strike out entirely the 9th section, which exempted the capital stock and dividends from taxation unless the nett income of the road should exceed six per cent per annum. This section would repeal, as far as this Company was concerned, two sections of the general law on the subject of taxation. Although no money is asked for by this Company, it would retain from the Treasury of the State a considerable amount in the form of taxes.

Mr. LYONS opposed the amendment. The bill authorized the State to purchase from the Company the entire work, however profitable it might be. In consideration of the great difficulties to be encountered, and the advantage to the State, the bill now authorizes the Company to receive the lawful interest of six per cent, before it shall be required to pay a tax upon the stock or dividends, leaving all other property that it may hold subject to taxation. Mr. DENISON saw no reason why foreign

capitalists should have greater privileges than were accorded to our own citizens.

hostility of the gentleman to this measure. The gentleman has secured all he could desire for his section of country and should not impose unnecessary restrictions upon the privileges of others. Every concession had been made that could with any reason be demanded, yet he believed that nothing would satisfy the voracious appetite of the gentleman. The amendment would prevent foreign capitalists from engaging in this enterprize. The amendment of Mr. DENISON was re-

Mr. LYONS then presented his amendment above referred to in argument, and it was adopt-

Mr. LAYNE moved to insert "Covington" as a point on the line of improvement. Rejected.

Mr. BALDWIN moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Roads and Internal Naviwith sufficient deliberation. They had been dazzled by the magnificence of the scheme. Those who refused to be taxed for improvements might be carried away. He was not generally opposed to the grant of corporate powers, but he regarded this as a great monopoly. He feared the company might be diverted from the selection of the best route by their mining and land speculations. The only restriction as to the route was that excluding them from the selection of the North side of James River. The numerous petitions from the various counties along the line of another contemplated work connecting the East and the West should be regarded.

Mr. GARNETT hoped the bill would not be recommitted. There seemed to be two other par-ties in this House: a North and a South Side party. He had heretofore voted for no bill requiring an appropriation from the Treasury for

provement of a particular section; but as this bill required nothing from the State, and would confer great benefits, he would sustain it with plea-The House refused to refer the bill.

Mr. MARTZ moved to strike out the words The bill was ordered to be engressed by a deci-On motion of Mr. TUNSTALL, the House

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 1846.

SENATE. The Speaker laid before the Senate an Execuive communication covering a statement of the condition of the Farmers' Bank of Virginia. Mr. BONDURANT from the Committee examine the Clerk's office, made a report which

Mr. WOOLFOLK from the Committee on Courts of Justice, reported the bill authorizing the transfer of money or property held in trust within this Commonwealth, to such trustees as shall be appointed by the Courts of other States to re-

There being no other business ready for action. on motion of Mr. WOOLFOLK the Senate ad-

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. A communication was received from the Senate, informing the House that the Senate had passed the following bills, with amendments, in which they request the concurrence of the House of Delegates

An act releasing the Commonwealth's right to the Price's Turnpike and Cumberland Gap Road to the courts of the counties through which the road passes, on certain conditions. An act authorising battalion in lieu of regimen-

tal musters in the 97th regiment of Virginia mili-The amendments were severally agreed to. The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Governor, transmitting a quarterly statement showing the condition of the

Farmers' Bank of Virginia, and its branches, on the 1st instant; which, on motion of Mr. ED-MUNDS, was laid upon the table and ordered t The following petitions, &c., were presented By Mr. WEST, of citizens of the county

Tyler, for the incorporation of a company to construct a railroad from the Potomac to the Ohio; or, for the grant of the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company.

By Mr. LONG, two similar petitions—one from the citizens of Randolph, and the other from citizens of Barhour county. By Mr. NEAL, a similar petition from citizens

of the county of Wood.

By Mr. NEWTON, of the Trustees of the Norfolk Academy, asking aid of the Legislature. By Mr. CLAYTON, of citizens of Marion county, against the formation of a new county

By Mr. STREET, of citizens of Bedford county, praying that a new county may be formed of parts of the counties of Bedford, Campbel

By Mr. McDEARMON, of voters of the couny of Appomattox, asking that the precinct elections in said county be done away with, so far as the election of a delegate is concerned. By Mr. PARKS, of citizens of Carrollton, ask-

ing for the passage of a law to authorize the County Court to have the Main Street widened and straightened; and also to have the name of Carrollton changed to that of Hillsville. By Mr. CALLISON, of citizens of the county of Greenbrier, praying to be released from the

payment of tolls on the Red and Blue Sulphur Turnpike Road. Also, a remonstrance of the citizens of Greenbrier, against the formation of a new county out of the counties of Fayette, Ni-The following resolutions were presented and

By Mr BRAWNER. That the Committee on Finance enquire into the expediency of authorizing the County Court of Prince William to direct the Commissioner of the Revenue to re-assess the half acre of land and the buildings thereon, belonging to David Perry and Thomas

By Mr. HINER. That the Committee on Finance enquire into the expediency of so amend-ing the law in reference to assessments of the revenue, as to impose a penalty upon the Commissioners of the Revenue for a failure to administer the oath required by law in taking assessments of

providing more effectually for the protection of

A motion was made by Mr. TAYLOR, that when the House adjourns to-day, it will adjourn until 'o-morrow at 11 o'clock. Thereupon, on motion of Mr. LACY, the said proposition was laid upon the table.

The motion was advocated by Messrs TAY-LOR, BANKS, and McPHERSON, and opposed by Messrs. WEST, STOVALL and LACY. The following bill was presented: To amend an act passed the 1st day of Feb'y, 1844, entitled, "An act authorizing the erection

of a poor-house or houses in the county of Essex. The following Reports of Committees were read and agreed to: Adverse to t'e petition of John Pearson, a teacher, of Augusta, for payment of his accounts

of 1844 and 1845, from the quota of 1846; Adverse to the petition of officers of the 162d Regiment in the county of Pendleton, praying permission to train within the bounds of their Regiment.

Adverse to the payment, from the school quota of Londonn for 1846, of Thomas Wright's account

Adverse to the petition of Byrd C. Sewell, Adjutant of the 16th Regiment of Infantry, praying compensation for services rendered by him in collecting the arms of the militia of said regiment; Adverse to the petition of citizens of the coun-ties of Lewis, Harrison, Randolph and Barbour, for the establishment of a new county out of The following bills were passed:

To incorporate the Directors of the Scientific and Eclectic Medical Institute of the State of To render certified copies of papers admissi

ble in evidence in lieu of the originals in certain Incorporating the Farmers' and Mechanics'

Savings Bank in Fincastle; To incorporate the Richmond Gas Company More effectually to punish certain offences; Changing the time of holding the county Court

To incorporate the Mayo Mills Manufacturing Company in the town of Manchester; To amend the 62d section of the act entitled 'an act to establish a Court of Law and Chancery in each of the counties of this Commonwealth and in certain corporations therein men-

Divorcing Watkins Harper from his wife Changing the time of holding the County Court of Prince George.

An engrossed bill to incorporate the Richmond

and Ohio Railroad Company was read a third Thereupon a motion was made by Mr. DEN-

ISON that the same be laid upon the table and Mr. DENISON stated that material amendments had been made since the bill was printed, and he was not able to determine what was the exact influence thereby produced upon the various provisions of the bill. This bill granted to a Company the right to hold lands in perpetuity,

and should be scrutinized with the utmost care He demanded the aves and noes upon his motion. Mr. COCKE hoped that the House would not longer delay the passage of a bill calculated to produce such beneficial results. It had been crutinized with the greatest care, and even with suspicion. It proposed to construct a railroad of the atmost importance to the State; affording lacilities of intercourse between its different sections, and greatly promoting the convenience of its citizens in reaching a market for their produce. It further proposed to convert the waste lands of the West into productive sources of wealth to individuals, and of revenue to the State, and to develop the mineral resources that now lie buried in the earth. It asked nothing from the Treasury, but would tend greatly to the

regarded the motion to lay on the table, as an ef-Mr DENISON said be noted with the centleman as to the importance of the bill, and there-fore regarded it as more necessary that they should act with deliberation. The bill had been burried through the House without the formality of a re-

increase of the revenue, and to the equalization of the burdens of the East and the West. He

Mr. YERBY said he had listened in vain for a reason from the gentleman for his motion. If been fully discussed, it was the one now under consideration. It had already been twice printed every section had been amended and elaborately liscussed, and that too with a view to its defeat excense of printing it, or of consuming the time of to advocate a measure which would confer such great benefits upon the State without involving it

Mr. MARTZ did not oppose the bill but there were certain provisions of it which he desired to examine. If it should not be the pleasure of the House to lay the bill upon the table, he would be

compelled to vote against it. Mr. BOCOCK did not approve of the proposition to lay on the table; yet if gentlemen were not prepared to act upon the subject, they were perfectly right in making the motion. The bill had been thoroughly discussed. If he were regarded as an enemy to the bill, he must have been misunderstood. His object in proposing various amend-ments to the bill, was to render it more acceptable to the House. They were better prepared at pre-sent, to decide upon the recent discussion than

they would be at a future day. Mr. McRAE considered the motion to lay upon the table entirely out of place, and utterly unsuited to the occasion. The subject had been fully considered, and it gentlemen wished to de-

feat the measure, they should adopt another DENISON replied, that the gentleman from Henrico had assumed what was not admitted. There were other gentlemen who, perhaps, could not at a glance see to the bottom of a subject with the same facility as the gentleman from

Mr. COCKE thought this motion ought not to be made, unless there were provisions in the bill not understood. If the difficulties of gentlemen were stated, they could easily be removed. There was a great amount of business before the House, and it was important that this subject should be disposed of at once. The House refused to lay the bill on the table

question then recurred upon the passage of Mr. JOHN H. CUSTIS called for the ayes

Mr. McPHERSON explained his vote. For seven or eight years past he had voted against every proposition to tax the people for the purpose of internal improvement. Since this bill required nothing from the Treasury, he would vote for it with pleasure. There was no danger to be apprehended from the speculation in lands. As soon as this bill should pass the Senate, the value of the lands along the line of the improvement would be greatly enhanced, and the compa-

y would find it a difficult matter to purchase the lands at less than their value.

Mr. RICE said he belonged to that class in the House which was generally found in opposition to schemes of internal improvement. He was a friend of internal improvement, but opposed to appropriations from the treasury for that purpose. In theory and in practice he was an Internal mprovement man. By their own industry and enterprize the prople of his county had changed the whole aspect of Nature. Whenever indivi-duals should be found ready to provide the means for uniting the East and the West by bonds of

iron, they should receive his hearty co-operation Mr. FLOWERS thought that every man had a right to construct a road through his own land; and as this company proposed to construct the railroad through their own lands at their own expense, he would not deny them this privilege. The ayes and noes being called, the result was

Aucs-Messrs. Goode, (Speaker,) Harvie, Powell, Mitchell, Boak, Campbell, Camden, Miller, Turnbull, Bocock, Flood, Toler, Lacy, Hobson, Garnett, Moss, Scott, Hall of Fanquier McClung, Deskins, Street, Saunders, Jr., Wall, Cather, Jones, Leake, Parks, Callison, Stovall, Brown of Hanover, Lee, Flowers, McRae, Wootton, Turner, Towner, Gaines, Gresham, Goare, McIntyre, Taylor, Elizey, Bagley, Clayton, Par-McIntyre, Taylor, Elizey, Bagley, Giaylon, Par-riott, Adams, Hamilton, Edmondson, Michael, Jr., Kilby, Cabell, Newton, Happer, Yerby, Oliver, Edgington, McPherson, Lanier, Cocke, Fairfax, Dey, McDearmon, Long, Strother, Lyons, Holladay, Hall of Taylor, Laird, West, Rice and Neal-71.

Noes-Messrs, William H. P. Custis, John H. Custis, Southall, Brown of Albemarie, Layne Massie, Dickinson of Bath, Thompson of Botetonrt, Dickinson of Caroline, Carrington, Win-Hiner, Syme, Arbogast, Daniel, Pritchard, Gold, Harper, Martz, Cowan, Fugate, Denison, Stickley, Sebrell, Freeman and Funsten-39. On motion of Mr. SCOTT, the House ad-

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21st, 1846. SENATE. The several bills communicated from the II.

of Delegates were read and committed to their ap propriate committees.

The bill authorizing the transfer of money or property held in trust within this Commonwealth, to such trustees as shall be appointed by the court of other States to receive the same, came up and

was passed with amendment. The bill incorporating the Richmond Gas Company, was taken up, on motion of Mr. STAN-ARD, and passed. Mr. Stanard was deputed to inform the House

of the passage of the bill. The bill apportioning the school quotas of Gilmer and Doddridge counties, &c., was taken up, on motion of Mr. WILLEY, and passed with On motion of Mr. WILLEY,

serving on the committee to visit the University

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. The following resolutions were presented and adopted:
By Mr. NEWTON. That the Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation enquire into the expediency of authorizing certain bonds issued after the expiration of the morning hour, called

by the James River Company, as agents for the Commonwealth, to be cancelled and exchanged for bonds to be issued by the Commonwealth in positions and Grievances enquire into the expediency of reporting a bill, directing an extra number of copies of the acts of the General Assembly to be sent to each county, to be sold by the Clerk of the County Court at a fair price; and, after deducting a reasonable commission for his trou-

ble, to pay the balance into the Treasury of the By Mr. HALL of Taylor. That the Committee on Finance enquire into the expediency of more clearly defining the powers of the County Courts in granting licences to keepers of ordina-

The following bills were presented: Concerning certain lot-holders in the town of Authorizing the sale of the old jail, and the

ground on which it stands, in the county of Rus-Concerning executions against insolvent debt-For the relief of the Richmond and Petersburg

Railroad Company; Providing for the acquisition of materials for the repair of the Cumberland Road in Virginia; Increasing the limit fixed by law for killing wolves in the county of Allegiany;

Authorizing a separate election at the house of Alexander Wade, in the county of Bedford; county of Gilmer; Authorizing a separate election at Delk's old store, in the county of Isle of Wight; Increasing the capital stock of the Roanoke

BILLS PASSED. To authorize the backing of warrants; Changing the punishment of free negroes and mulatices for certain offences; Authorizing a separate election at the house of

Navigation Company.

Beston Rowan, in the county of Mocroe; To explain and amend the fourth and eighth of the act passed 17th February, 1845, establishing a system of free schools in Norfolk county;
Authorizing the Committee on Finance to ap-

Authorizing jailors to require security for their Exempting the Volunteer Companies of Franklin county from the extra musters now required A message was received from the Senate by

Mr. Stanard, informing the House that the Senate had passed the bill entitled, "An act with an amendment, in which they concurrence of the House of Delegates. The amendment was concurred in The tollowing Reports of Committees were agreed to by the House:

others, praying for a special act to authorize sell and convey certain lands in the county of Fauquier: Declaring it inexpedient to provide by law for the appointment of commissioners by the county ouris to take depositions;
Adverse to the petition of citizens of Middlesex,

Adverse to the petition of Elizabeth Smith and

praying the repeal of the 5th section of the act passed March 31, 1840, concerning licenses to Adverse to the petition of citizens of the counties of Caroline, King & Queen and Essex, for a new county to be formed out of a part of each of

Adverse to the petition of Edmund Moore, praying for permission to remain in the Com-Declaring it inexpedient to pass a law defining the duties, liabilities and compensation of receiv ers appointed by the courts of the Commo

Declaring it inexpedient to pass a law provi ding for the taking of depositions of winesses who reside 100 miles and over from the places to which they are summoned to give evidence; Adverse to the petition of Ulysses Hinchman, praying that an act may be passed, confirming

certain marriages;

Dailey's account, as a teacher in Smyth county The Committee appointed to examine the Re gister's office, made a report approving of its management and condition. The Committee appointed to examine the 1st Anditor's "Office of Public Accounts," have per-

Against the propriety of paying Nancy Ann

formed that duty, and beg leave to submit the following report: The Committee have carefully examined the books and papers of the office, and find that the vonchers and disbursements correspond, that the books are neatly and accurately kept, and that the papers are all well arranged.

The report of the Select Committee on the sub

ject of absent members, and a counter report rom the minority of said Committee, were on motion of Mr. TAYLOR, laid upon the table. The following petitions, &c., were presented

By Mr. NEAL, of citizens of Wood county, for the incorporation of a Company with power o construct a Railroad from the Ohio to the Po-By Mr. CLAYTON, of citizens of Monongalia county, praying that they may be attached to

f Marion By Mr. PRITCHARD, of citizens of Roanoke county, praying for the passage of an act to in-corporate the Roanoke Savings Bank. By Mr. EDGINGTON, of citizens of Ohio county and North-western Virginia, against the incorporation of any Company to change the terminus of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Com-

By Mr. TURNER, two petitions, of citizens of Clarke and Jefferson counties, for a charter to construct a Railroad from Little's Falls, on the Shenandoah river, in the county of Jefferson, to intersect the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at or near the Old Furnace, in said county, with the privilege to stop at or intersect the Winchester and Potomac Railroad at or near Key's Switch. By Mr BOCOCK, of citizens of Buckingham,

praying the establishment of an inspection of tobacco in the town of Howardsville. By Mr. BOWDEN, two petitions of citizens of York and Williamsburg praying that the inspection law to prevent the carrying of slaves from the Commonwealth by vessels trading to New York, be repealed or so modified as to avoid certain inconveniences complained of. By Mr. TURNER, of Thomas Hite Willis, Willis and others of Jefferson, for the

incorporation of the Millsville Manufacturing By Mr. LEAKE, of the Stockholders of the Bank of Virginia for a reduction of its nominal amount of capital to its actual amount, and a change of the par value of the shares of stock in By Mr. DICKINSON of Caroline, of citizens

of Caroline and Hanover, that the Commonwealth relinquish the cost and expenses incurred in the rial of Wm. Norment.

By Mr. HARVIE, of Thomas C. and H. C. Wilson, praying that the assessment of certain lands in Amelia county may be reduced. On motion of Mr. STREET, the House ad-

DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION!-We learn from

the Philadelphia U. S. Gazette of Monday, that free, Stillman, Edmunds, Hiett, Thompson of Hampshire, Godwin, Robinson, Duff, Gordon, Hampshire, Godwin, Robinson, Duff, Gordon, Banks, Shepard, Wade, Jr., Davis, Tatum, Sunday evening, about half-past 8 o'clock, which by his family and by dear and cherished friends, by his family and by dear and cherished friends, C. Parisi

THE ENQUIRER.

RICHMOND, VA.

Thursday Morning, January 22, 1846. [Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer.]

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 20, 1846. The Democracy of the District of Columbia have met with a great loss in the death of the eloquent James Hoban, Esq., who was lately appointed United States District Attorney. He ple hemorrhage. He was emphatically one of the most eloquent men I ever listened to; and since his boyhood has been an active supporter [It may be proper to state, that Mr. Gallaher of Democratic principles. Indeed, he was by was excused on Saturday at his own request from far the most prominent man belonging to the far the most prominent man belonging to the District as a politician. During the last Presidential canvass he was more than a match for the host of Federal orators in the ten miles

square, who could rarely be persuaded to meet him in debate. The Senate were in open session but a short time to-day. In the House, Mr. Hamlin of Me. up the Florida election case, which was the sub-Commonwealth, to be cancelled and exchanged or bonds to be issued by the Commonwealth in the usual form.

By Mr. GOLD. That the Committee for Prositions and Grievances enquire into the expensitions and Grievances are provided in the principle of the minority of the committee on the principle of the minority of the committee on the principle of the minority of the committee on the principle of the minority of the committee on the principle of the minority of the committee of the minority of the committee of the minority of the minority of the committee of the minority of the mi of the minority of the committee, on the other side; and the latter by Mr. Seaborn Jones of Georgia, who agreed in support of the report of the majority. Mr. J. had not concluded when the House adjourned. Mr. Brockenbrough is to speak in behalf of his own claim. He comes here with a great oratorical reputation, and will doubtless attract a large concurse to listen to his first effort; which will be the more interesting, as it is to be on a question personal to himself.
The Senate, while in Executive session to-day. confirmed the nomination of Mr. Slidell as Mi

nister to Mexico. Great exertions were made by the Whigs to defeat it, but in vain. other things, charges were made against him out of doors, if not in the Senate, for participation in the alledged Plaquemines election frauds. saw Mr. S. put down last winter a mean insinuation, made by a Whig in the House, upon this very subject; in such a way, too, as to impress upon all hearers, not only the impossibility of the existence of just grounds for such unworthy suspicions, but the danger in giving them utterance while he was sufficiently near to refute them, and then to punish his standerers. have been hushed, and, I had supposed, buried until his absence in a foreign country affords his Alexander Wade, in the county of Bedford;
Annexing to the county of Lewis a part of the ounty of Gilmer;

Calumniators an opportunity not only to make the attack under the supposition that he alone can brand them with falsehood, but that they might also come off scot-free of consequences .-If I am not most egregiously mistaken in the he meets these individuals face to face-he will then make them eat their words

Oregon will receive the go-by to-morrow in the House, as to-day. So, it is presumed, that Mr. Pendleton, who, as I have before written you, is to make the next speech thereon, is to suffer the torment of "pent-up eloquence" for some time longer. This delay in the further con-sideration of the great question, is indicative of the caution with which the House of Representatives are desirous of acting in the matter.

he question of the manner in is the absorbing topic of conversation here, at present; and all appear most anxious to act, when the subject is again taken up, under advices from the other side of the Atlantic. I cannot hope for any reliable expression of English popular sentiment on the question, until the Oregon Correspondence is spread before the English reople And unless the administration sent a manuscript copy for publication, with the message, it could hardly have reached London in time for circulation before the sailing of the Hibernia, whose arrival is hourly expected. Whatever the British press may say, until after that is read and digested, will only be their impressions of our claims on their bare assertion, without the proof upon which the administration justify their positions and re-commendations. It will not be their "sober se-ond thought." When I wrote you last evening expressing teats that Wellington would eventually defeat the action of the new ministry in effecting the proposed reduction in the corn laws. had entirely forgotten that the English Govern ment had a way of their own to compel an obs i nate at istocracy to succumb to popular sentiment, whenever a crisis arises which demands extraordinary exertions. They create a batch of nev Peers pledged to vote for the ministerial proposition. Thus, if after the repeal of the Corn Laws passes the House of Commons, it shall be as ertained that there is a majority of twenty in the House of Lords against it, Lord John Rus-sell (in fact, but the Queen nominally,) will create twenty-one new Peers; and the deed is done. This custom is common to France also; and but for a resort to it on questions of great moment vilege, "by the grace of God" the spark of liberal burning in either of those Governments, would have long since produced a conflagration to have destroyed all vestiges of the French and

English aristocracies, In discussing the chances of war from the Oregon controversy, I have always written you that England knows the internal danger to arise to her, if, by war with us, the want of food becomes as it must necessarily, more pressing upon her laboring population. The well-informed and in-telligent Mr. Robert Walsh, the Paris correspondent of the Intelligencer, in his last letter hears out what I have said to you on the subject most fully, although he writes more directly with reference to another matter—the then mooted question as to whether Sir Robert Peel was, or was not, in favor of the repeal of the corn laws. He says: "The landed interest will struggle despe rately (against the repeal.) Sir Robert Peel would not, I think, yield in this way. He must be sensible that a real extensive dearth of food in Great Britain might beget, quickly, fearful social and political revolutions." Can this "real extensive dearth of food in England" be avoided, in case he looms are stopped for want of our cotton, and, at the same time, our privateers are preying on her commerce in every sea? Does any one believe t possible? England will not risk stirring up these "fearful social and political revolutions," to oppose our rights in Oregon. She cannot at this ne back her pretensions by the force of arms, with so dire a contingency almost certa sult from such a course.

TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. MONDAY, Jan. 19th, 1846.

On motion of Mr. PENNYBACKER, the reading of the Journal was dispensed with. A message was received from the House of Representatives announcing the death of Hon. William Taylor of Virginia, and inviting the Senate to attend the funeral.

On motion of Mr. ARCHER, the Senate pro-Mr. PENNYBACKER rose and addressed the The Senate, but in so low a tone of voice as to be almost inaudible in the gallery. He said, as near-ly as could be understood:

On motion of Mr. CHAPMAN of Virginia, y as could be understood: Mr. President, the announcement which we have just heard from the House of R presenta-

tives of the death of the Hon. William Taylor, one of the representatives in Congress from Virginia, imposes upon me the mournful duty of moving the resolutions (customary upon such occasions) of respect to the memory of the deceased. Mr. Taylor died very suddenly, at his residence in this city, on Saturday morning last, at about four o'clock. In the inscrutable dispensa-tion of Divine Providence, he was cut off in the vigor of his age, and in the midst of his usefulness. For some time previous to his death he had been (though, as his friends hoped, not very seriously) indisposed. But, alas! how fallaciou are human hopes! The hand of death was then upon him, and his spirit was about taking its flight the place of disembodied spirits, there to enjoy its everlasting res'.

His excellence as an individual and as a member of society, was beyond all praise; and he died, sir, as he had lived, without a struggle.-He quictly surrendered his soul into the hands of Him who gave it, and ascended to the bosom of his God, there to enjoy the reward of the blest for ever and for ever. But, sir, melancholy as is the announcement

I have made, there were circumstances attending | port. he sad event which were well calculated to mitigate the blow to the bereaved friends of the de-

My friend died not, sir, in a strange land, far

, which this bereavement has inflicted upon their hearts! The deceased I knew well, both in person and by reputation. He was the Represenwhich district he also represented in the 28th Congress. A purer man never lived on earth. He was remarkable, sir, for the modesty of his manners and for the unvarying courtesy and ur-

As a lawyer, he stood well at the bar; as a member of Congress, there were few superior to him in usefulness and devotion to the interests of his constituents; as a father, a neighbor, and a friend he was all that could be desired-nodied last night, between eight and nine o'clock, thing was wanting to the perfection of his charit is said of varioloid, which terminated in pur- acter as an amiable and accomplished gentleman. He was respectably connected in all the branches of his family: he was, in fine, an ornament to human nature itself.

> I have said that I knew him well, and those who knew him best will acknowledge the truth of the portrait which I have drawn. Without further remarks, I move the following resolu-Resolved, That the Senate has received with

Representatives announcing the death of the Hon. WILLIAM TAYLOR, Representative from the State Resolved, That in token of respect for the memory of the deceased, the Senate will attend his tuneral this day at the hour appointed by the

al badge of mourning. Mr. ARCHER moved that the Senate do now proceed to attend the funeral, which motion having been adopted, the Senate repaired to the Hall

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. the funeral of the Hon. William Taylor, deseat of Govornment, on Friday night. After prayer by the Rev. Chaplain Milburn, appropriate to the mournful ceremonies about to com-

At twenty minutes past 12 o'clock the Senate entered the Hall, preceded by the Vice President, the Secretary, and other officers. The Vice President was conducted by the Sergeant-at-Arms to the Speaker's stand and took a seat by the side of the Speaker. Then came the Judges and officers of the Supreme Court.

The General-in-Chief of the Army with other

At half-past 12, the corpse was brought into the

House, preceded by the Committee of Arrange-

The religious services were opened by the Rev. Mr. Tuston, by reading one of the Psalms, Then prayer by the Rev. Mr. Milburn. After which an address by the Rev. Mr. Tuston. The ceremonies were concluded at half-past 1 o'clock, when the procession moved from the Hall of the House in the order established by the Compaper. At the front of the Capitol, the procession ok carriages and proceeded in regular order to sited in the vault erected for the reception of the

IN SENATE

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate communications from the War and Navy De-Mr. HANNEGAN submitted a proposition as an addition to the bill to organise and increase

asking for the erection of a bridge across the Ohio river, in the route of the Cumberland road, on the ground that said road is a great national highway and mail route-which was referred to the Post Office and Post Road Com-

the interference of foreign powers in the instituon the American continent. citizens of Pennsylvania, remonstrating agains any settlement of the Oregon question below 54

or local nature.

Mr. BROWN of Virginia presented the memorial of the Board of Trade of the city of Wheeling praying Congress to provide against the great delay and danger attending the transporta-tion of the mails of the U. States, by bridging the

Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Elections, moved to take up the resolution from said committee in favor of giving the seat on the floor,

the chairman of the committee, brought to the notice of the House, coupled with reflections upon Mr. HAMLIN rose in reply, and explained

The House now decided to take up the resolution, when the reading of the reports, both of the Resolved, That William H. Brockenbrough, who contests the seat of E. C. Cabell, have leave

The report of the Committee of Elections being called for, it was read at the Clerk'stable, as was also a minority report.

The report of the majority of the Committee,

following resolutions: Resolved, That Edward C. Cabell, returned to this House as a member thereof from the State of Florida, is not entitled to his seat.

Resolved, That W. H. Brockenbrough is enti-

from the State of Florida. The report of the remaining four members of the Committee of Elections concludes as follows: Resolved, That Wm. H. Brockenbrough has not supported his petition, and that Edward C. Co-

ing lost by a majority, on tellers, of one vote.) The question was stated, will the House agree to the resolutions reported by the Committee

House in support of the report of the committee. The House, on motion of Mr. S. JONES, ad-

Sunday evening, about half-past 8 o'clock, which was not mastered by the firemen until 2 o'clock the next morning. The loss of property is very heavy, but it is mostly covered by insurance. The fire was no doubt the work of an incendiary, God in his infinite goodness heal the wounds.

In the midst of home associations, surrounded by his family and by dear and cherished friends, at no great distance from the spot where the light of Heaven first met his eyes, having been born in the city of Alexandria, in this District. May God in his infinite goodness heal the wounds.

Grayson and Carroll.

banity of his deportment; no man excelled him in sensibility and honorable feelings.

until lost in the ocean of eternity. What I have said is not the language of mere panegyrie,deep sensibility the message from the House of

In his life there occurred no very striking in-cident. The placid stream flowed smoothly on

House of Representatives, and will wear the usu-

After the return form the funeral, the Senate The House met at 12 o'clock, pursuant to the order of Saturday, for the purpose of attending ceased, one of the Representatives from the State of Virginia, who died at his lodgings, at the

The SPEAKER took the Chair, and the mem-

ments and pall-bearers, and followed by the family and friends of the deceased, and the Virginia delegation, as mourpers. All of whom took the seats specially provided for them. A few minutes afterwards the President of the United States, with his Cabinet Ministers, enter-

ed the Hall, and were conducted to seats set apart

centre of the circular space in front of the Clerk's

The remains of the deceased were placed in the

remains of deceased members of Congress and

other public officers dying at the seat of Govern-

the Navy, for building ten additional war steamers, with an appropriation of \$2,000,000 out of e proceeds of the public land sales.

Mr. PENNYBACKER presented a petition

Mr. ALLEN gave notice that on Friday next he would move to introduce resolutions respecting tions and political relations of the Governments Mr. STURGEON presented a memorial from

On motion, the Senate went into Executive HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The CHAIR called the committees in on er for reports. A few were made upon bills of a private

Ohio river at Wheeling.

Also, the petition of Arch. Woods, and 600 other citizens of Ohio county, Va., praying Congress to bridge the Ohio river at the city of Wheeling, accompanied with a draught of the

held by Mr. Cabell, to Mr. Brockenbrough, his contesting competitor-but gave way for Mr. CABELL to make a personal explana-tion-who stated, that before he left the city, last week, on a brief visit to New York, he enquired and was informed that the committee would not report before his return. He gave the committee, or one of its members, notice of his intention to leave for New York, and he expressed his surprise that the subject of his absence had been, by

why he had made the report from the Committee and brought to the notice of the House the absence of the sitting member from Florida. He had heard from one member of the committee, the fact of the intended absence of the gentleman from Florida. He deemed it proper that the settlement of the question should not longer be de-

to be heard at the bar of this House. consisting of five members, concludes with the

tled to a seat in this House as a Representative

bell is entitled to his seat in this House. (Several efforts were made to suspend the reading, but without success-the most successful be-

Mr. HAMLIN explained and defended the re-Mr. CHIPMAN followed on the other side. Mr. SEABORN JONES next addressed the

Sunday evening, about half-past 8 o'clock, which last in the midst of home associations, surrounded by his family and by decread charished friends